

Attorney Docket Number: 116812-00114

### DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

#### GRIPPING MEMBER FOR A FAST-FIT SAFETY COUPLING

the specification of which

☐ is attached hereto

☒ was filed on **MARCH 3, 2004** as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number **10/791,294** and (if applicable) was amended on

I hereby authorize our attorneys to insert the serial number assigned to this application.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

#### PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC §119

APPLICATION NO.	COUNTRY	DAY/MONTH/YEAR FILED	PRIORITY CLAIMED
TO2003A000160	Italy	4 March 2003	yes

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

#### PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S) UNDER 35 U.S.C. §119(e)

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application, or §365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

#### PRIOR U.S./PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION(S) DESIGNATED FOR BENEFIT UNDER 35 U.S.C. §120

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	STATUS — PATENTED, PENDING, ABANDONED

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith: Victor M. Wigman, Reg. No. 25,201; Donald R. Greene, Reg. No. 22,470; Michael C. Greenbaum, Reg. No. 28,419; Charles R. Wolfe, Jr., Reg. No. 28,680; Michael D. White, Reg. No. 32,795; Brian C. Jones, Reg. No. 37,857; David J. Edmondson, Reg. No. 35,126; Denise C. Lane, Reg. No. 42,780; Peter Weissman, Reg. No. 40,220; Brian WM. Higgins, Reg. No. 48,443; John J. Yun, Reg. No. 53,823; and Thomas L. Willis, Jr., Reg. No. 53,778.

**Correspondence Address:****BLANK ROME LLP**

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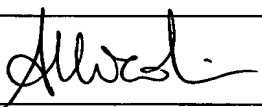
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**27557**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of sole or first inventor (given name, family name) <b>Aldo NICOLINO</b>	
Signature 	Date 010704
Residence 10040 CASELLETTE (Italy) Strada Contessa, 35	Citizenship Italian
Mailing Address	
Full Name of additional joint inventor (given name, family name)	
Signature	Date
Residence	Citizenship
Mailing Address	
Full Name of additional joint inventor (given name, family name)	
Signature	Date
Residence	Citizenship
Mailing Address	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional joint inventors are named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto.	

Applicant or Patentee: PRES-BLOCK S.p.A. Attorney's  
Serial or Patent No.: 10/791,294 Docket No. 116812-C  
Filed: MARCH 3, 2004  
For: "GRIPPING MEMBER FOR A FAST-FIT SAFETY COUPLING"

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c))-SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

I hereby declare that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:  
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf  
of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN PRES-BLOCK S.p.A.

ADDRESS OF CONCERN 10040 CASELETTE (Italy) Via Alpignano, 155

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled  
"Gripping member for a fast-fit safety coupling"  
by inventor(s)

Mr. Aldo NICOLINO

described in

- ☐ the specification filed herewith.  
☒ application serial no. 10/791,294, filed March 3, 2004.  
☐ patent no. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusively held by each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e). NOTE: Separate verified statements are required for each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

NAME

ADDRESS

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

NAME

ADDRESS

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Aldo NICOLINO

TITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER MANAGING DIRECTOR

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 10040 CASELETTE (Italy) Strada Contessa, 35

SIGNATURE

DATE

01/07/04

BEST AVAILABLE COPY